Application No.: 10/772,009

Amendment dated: December 19, 2005

Reply to Final Office Action of: September 19, 2005

REMARKS

The Non-final office action of September 19, 2005 has been carefully reviewed. Claims 1, 37, and 41 have been amended. Claim 1 is amended to incorporate the features of claim 5, which was not rejected over prior art. Claims 37 and 41 are amended to incorporate the features of claim 15, which was not rejected over prior art. Claims 5 and 45-47 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter has been added. Claims 1-4, 6-44, and 48-55 are pending. Reconsideration and allowance of the instant application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments made herein.

The Office Action objects to the specification. The specification has been amended at page 1, paragraph [01] to include the U.S. Patent Number corresponding to U.S. Patent Application No. 10/269,818. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-55 were rejected for obviousness-type double patenting over the claims of U.S. Patent No. 6,714,154. A terminal disclaimer is filed herewith. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 20, 21, 37, 38, 41, 42 45 and 47 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by NN84056410 (IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin, "Compression Technique for Text Character Streams, Vol. 26, Issue 12, May 1984, pages 6410-6412). Merely to expedite prosecution, Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the claim 5 features and claims 37 and 41 to include the claim 15 features. Claims 45-47 have been canceled. Therefore, claims 1-444 and 48-55 are allowable. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

All rejections having been addressed by this amendment, Applicant submits that the instant application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully requests prompt notification of the same. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to deposit account 19-0733. Should the Examiner feel that a telephone call would expedite prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number below.

By:

Respectfully submitted,

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

Dated: December 13, 2005

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